

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE — REGULAR SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

TWELFTH DAY

(Monday, March 22, 2021)

The Senate met at 2:00 p.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Alvarado, Bettencourt, Birdwell, Blanco, Creighton, Eckhardt, Gutierrez, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Hughes, Johnson, Lucio, Menéndez, Nichols, Perry, Powell, Schwertner, Seliger, Springer, Taylor, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

Absent-excused: Buckingham, Campbell, Huffman, Kolkhorst, Miles, Nelson, Paxton.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

Senator Birdwell offered the invocation as follows:

Father, we come before You this afternoon asking for what Your word tells us in Proverbs 11:2, with humility comes wisdom. We ask for that humility, for wisdom, for discernment to know the truth from deception, for courage, and for grace. I ask these things for my fellow Senators, for our staffs and their counsel that they give us for the citizens of Texas that they may not be a reproach before Your kingdom and our state may always be free and safe under Your law. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Senator Whitmire moved that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day be dispensed with and the Journal be approved as printed.

The motion prevailed without objection.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Miles was granted leave of absence for today on account of illness.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Buckingham was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Campbell was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Huffman was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Kolkhorst was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Nelson was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Paxton was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following Messages from the Governor were read and were referred to the Committee on Nominations:

March 18, 2021

Austin, Texas

TO THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

I ask the advice, consent and confirmation of the Senate with respect to the following appointment:

To be the presiding officer of the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority for a term to expire February 1, 2022:

Linda Ryan Thomas

Longview, Texas

(Ms. Thomas is being reappointed)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott

Governor

March 19, 2021

Austin, Texas

TO THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

I ask the advice, consent and confirmation of the Senate with respect to the following appointments:

To be members of the Texas School Safety Center Board for terms to expire February 1, 2023:

Edwin S. Flores, Ph.D.

Dallas, Texas

(Dr. Flores is being reappointed)

James M. Mosley

Borger, Texas

(replacing Daniel F. "Dan" Gilliam of Victoria whose term expired)

Lizeth Cueller Olivarez

Laredo, Texas

(Ms. Olivarez is being reappointed)

Michael L. Slaughter, Ph.D.
Wylie, Texas
(*Dr. Slaughter is being reappointed*)

Jill M. Tate
Colleyville, Texas
(*Ms. Tate is being reappointed*)

Robert W. Wilson, Ed.D.
Silsbee, Texas
(*replacing Terry Deaver of Silsbee whose term expired*)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott
Governor

SENATE BILL ON FIRST READING

The following bill was introduced, read first time, and referred to the committee indicated:

SB 2154 by Schwertner
Relating to the membership of the Public Utility Commission of Texas.
To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SENATE BILL 1335 REREFERRED (Motion In Writing)

Senator Perry submitted a Motion In Writing requesting that **SB 1335** be withdrawn from the Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development and referred to the Committee on Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

The Motion In Writing was read and prevailed without objection.

SENATE RULE 11.18(a) SUSPENDED (Public Hearings)

On motion of Senator Hinojosa and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.18(a) was suspended in order that the Committee on Jurisprudence might consider **SB 2154** tomorrow.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE BILL 15

On motion of Senator Nichols, Senators Birdwell, Creighton, Hughes, Perry, Schwertner, and Taylor will be shown as Co-authors of **SB 15**.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE BILL 18

On motion of Senator Creighton, Senators Hughes and Springer will be shown as Co-authors of **SB 18**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 19

On motion of Senator Schwertner, Senator Creighton will be shown as Co-author of **SB 19**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 22

On motion of Senator Springer, Senator Creighton will be shown as Co-author of **SB 22**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 89

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Lucio will be shown as Co-author of **SB 89**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 242

On motion of Senator Eckhardt, Senator Johnson will be shown as Co-author of **SB 242**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 243

On motion of Senator Eckhardt, Senator Blanco will be shown as Co-author of **SB 243**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 424

On motion of Senator Hinojosa, Senator Blanco will be shown as Co-author of **SB 424**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 559

On motion of Senator Lucio, Senator Blanco will be shown as Co-author of **SB 559**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 560

On motion of Senator Lucio, Senator Blanco will be shown as Co-author of **SB 560**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 679

On motion of Senator Kolkhorst, Senator Lucio will be shown as Co-author of **SB 679**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 780

On motion of Senator Hinojosa, Senator Johnson will be shown as Co-author of **SB 780**.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE BILL 812

On motion of Senator Schwertner, Senators Hughes and Seliger will be shown as Co-authors of **SB 812**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 816

On motion of Senator Buckingham, Senator Powell will be shown as Co-author of **SB 816**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 980

On motion of Senator Powell, Senator Lucio will be shown as Co-author of **SB 980**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 1316

On motion of Senator Lucio, Senator Bettencourt will be shown as Co-author of **SB 1316**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 1474

On motion of Senator Perry, Senator Seliger will be shown as Co-author of **SB 1474**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 1911

On motion of Senator Blanco, Senator Johnson will be shown as Co-author of **SB 1911**.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolutions

SR 174 by Hughes, In memory of John Addison Gooch.

SR 175 by Hughes, In memory of Eva Elizabeth Hall Brown.

SR 184 by Perry, In memory of Elbert Hadley Phillips.

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 161 by Blanco, Recognizing Albert Peinado for receiving the 2020 Linden Heck Howell Outstanding Teaching of Texas History Award.

SR 162 by Blanco, Recognizing the floorball team of J.M. Hanks High School for qualifying for the 2022 Special Olympics Winter World Games.

SR 163 by Blanco, Recognizing El Pasoans Fighting Hunger for its service to the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SR 164 by Blanco, Recognizing the City of El Paso for its selection as an All-American City.

SR 165 by Blanco, Recognizing the Cathedral High School boys' swim team for winning a state championship.

SR 166 by Blanco, Recognizing Hawkins Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 167 by Blanco, Recognizing Ramona Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 168 by Blanco, Recognizing Clendenin Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 169 by Blanco, Recognizing Lamar Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 170 by Blanco, Recognizing Mitzi Bond Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 171 by Blanco, Recognizing Vista Hills Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 172 by Blanco, Recognizing South Loop Elementary School on its nomination for a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award.

SR 173 by Hughes, Recognizing Judson STEAM Academy for its selection as a 2021 Texas School to Watch.

SR 176 by Hughes, Recognizing Georgia Raven Rosborough on the occasion of her 104th birthday.

SR 179 by Hughes, Recognizing the City of Longview on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

SR 180 by Powell, Recognizing Joey Gann and Morgan Hix of the Fort Worth Fire Department for saving the lives of two children.

SR 181 by Schwertner, Recognizing all associated with the Big T Memorial Cookoff and Music Festival for their contributions to the community.

SR 183 by Perry, Recognizing Jeff Whitson for his service to Menard County during the 2021 winter storm.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate at 2:19 p.m. adjourned until 1:00 p.m. tomorrow.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee reports were received by the Secretary of the Senate in the order listed:

March 22, 2021

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES — SB 863, CSSB 672, SB 284, SB 224, CSSB 199, SB 383

STATE AFFAIRS — CSSB 802, CSSB 8, CSSB 12, CSSB 1647, CSSB 394

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES — CSSB 64, CSSB 827

WATER, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS — SB 675, SB 599, SB 705

RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED

March 22, 2021

SR 161, SR 162, SR 163, SR 164, SR 165, SR 166, SR 167, SR 168, SR 169, SR 170, SR 171, SR 172, SR 173, SR 174, SR 175, SR 176, SR 179, SR 180, SR 181, SR 183, SR 184